

## **BELLSOUTH BSE AND BELLSOUTH LONG DISTANCE REQUEST APPROVAL OF MERGER**

BellSouth BSE, Inc. (BSE) and BellSouth Long Distance, Inc. (BSLD) jointly filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (Commission) for the Commission's approval of the merger of BSE into BSLD. BSE intends to merge all its assets BSLD, including without limitations the following: accounts receivable, BSE's customer base, and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

A copy of the Application is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Synergy Business Park, Saluda Building, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina and is available through Patrick W. Turner, Attorney representing BellSouth BSE, Inc. and BellSouth Long Distance, Inc., BellSouth, 1600 Williams Street, Suite 5200, Columbia, South Carolina 29201.

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at a hearing, if scheduled, should notify Bruce F. Duke, Executive Director, at the address below, and Patrick W. Turner, at the previously stated address, in writing, on or before **April 2, 2004**, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-45-C**.

Any person who wishes to present his views to the Public Service Commission may do so in writing, on or before **April 2, 2004**. Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-45-C**.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Procedures, on or before **April 2, 2004**. Please refer to **Docket No. 2004-45-C**.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission by dialing (803) 896-5105.

**BRUCE F. DUKE**  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
P.O. Drawer 11649  
Columbia South Carolina 29211